



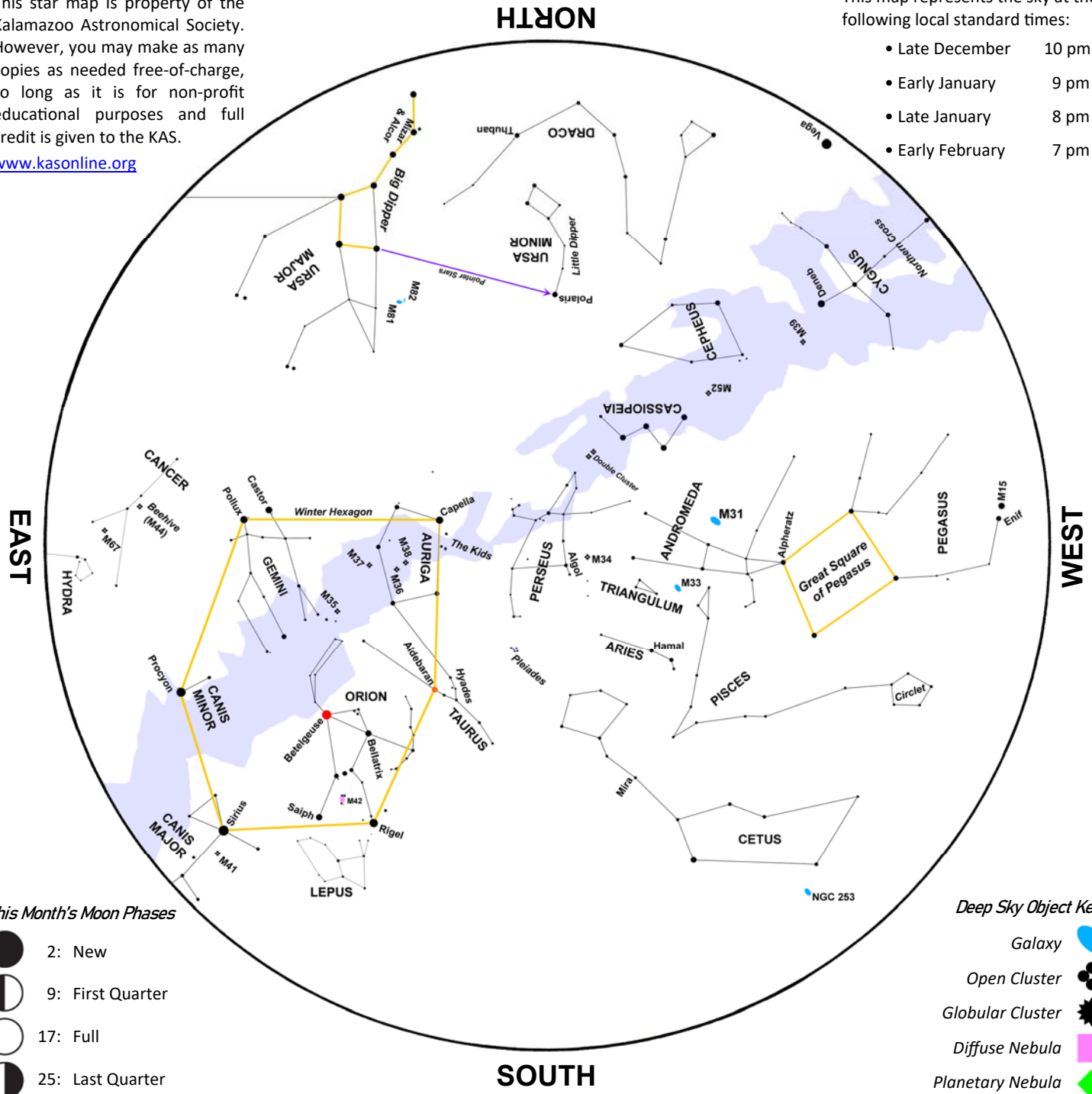
# January Night Sky

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This map represents the sky at the following local standard times:

- Late December 10 pm
- Early January 9 pm
- Late January 8 pm
- Early February 7 pm



### This Month's Moon Phases

- 2: New
- ◐ 9: First Quarter
- 17: Full
- ◑ 25: Last Quarter

### Deep Sky Object Key

- Galaxy (blue oval)
- Open Cluster (black cross)
- Globular Cluster (black starburst)
- Diffuse Nebula (pink square)
- Planetary Nebula (green diamond)

**C**atch four planets together above the southwestern horizon on New Year's Day. In order from lowest to highest altitude, these planets are Venus, Mercury, Saturn, and Jupiter. They'll be in a line about 38° long. Venus and Mercury will be challenging to spot since they'll set about an hour after sunset.

A whisper thin waxing crescent Moon (one

day past new) moves to within ~5° below elusive Mercury on the evening of January 3<sup>rd</sup>. For an additional reference, Venus is about 11° to the Moon's right.

The Moon then pays a visit to the two giant Jovian planets. First, it appears 5° to the lower left of Saturn on January 4<sup>th</sup>. The next evening, the Moon appears nearly 6° below mighty Jupiter.

Only 3½° separate Mercury and Saturn on the evening of January 12<sup>th</sup>. Both are still low in the southwestern sky. Binoculars will help locate the two worlds.

Early risers can enjoy the trio of an old waning crescent Moon, Mars, and Venus above the southeastern horizon before dawn on January 29<sup>th</sup>. Mars is ~3° to the Moon's upper left with Venus 11° from the pair.